

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02885 170926Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/064 W

-----115492 180649Z /12

R 170909Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9050  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2885

PRETORIA FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT ZA  
SUBJ: CHONA ON PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

1. PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL MAINZA CHONA HAS ADVISED THE THREE CANDIDATES SEEKING TO CHALLENGE PRESIDENT KAUNDA TO RUN FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE SEATS RATHER THAN THE PRESIDENCY. SPEAKING AT TWO RALLIES IN THE COPPERBELT CITY OF KITWE AUGUST 16, CHONA SAID THAT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND NATIONAL COUNCIL HAD ALREADY MADE IT CLEAR THAT KAUNDA WILL BE UNIP'S SOLE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT IN THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL ELECTIONS. ATTACKING THE WOULD-BE CANDIDATES FOR FORMING THEIR OWN PARTIES WITHIN UNIP, THE SECRETARY GENERAL SAID THE THREE MEN WERE MAKING A MOCKERY OF ZAMBIAN DEMOCRACY WHICH HAD ALLOWED "THE LOST SHEEP INTO THE FOLD."

2. STATING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE SILENT MAJORITY, MR. CHONA URGED ALL ZAMBIANS TO UNITE BEHIND PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND REJECT TRIBALISM IN POLITICS. CHONA SAID THAT PEOPLE FROM THE SAME TRIBES AS SOME OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SHOULD MAKE THEIR POSITION CLEAR AND  
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"REJECT THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO TARNISH THEIR TRIBES."  
USING HIMSELF AS AN EXAMPLE, THE SECRETARY GENERAL POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH HE WAS A TONGA HE FULLY SUPPORTED PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND NOT HIS FELLOW TRIBESMAN NKUMBULA.

3. COMMENT: HONA'S REMARKS REFLECT AN INCREASING TENDENCY AMONG KAUNDA'S SUPPORTERS IN THE PARTY LEADERSHIP TO CONDEMN

TRIBALISM BY THEMSELVES RAISING THE SPECTRE OF TRIBALISM.  
THE TWO MAJOR OPPONENTS ARE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED BY THE ZAMBIAN  
PUBLIC WITH SPECIFIC TRIBAL GROUPS--KAPWEPWE WITH THE BEMBA  
AND NKUMBULA WITH THE TONGA--AND BOTH OBVIOUSLY NEED TO SHAKE  
THAT IMAGE TO HAVE ANY HOPE OF SUCCESS. THE PARTY LEADERS  
ARE DOING THEIR BEST TO SEE THAT THE IMAGE IS MAINTAINED.  
CLINGERMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LUSAKA02885  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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